

CLAIMS

1. An adapting element for at least one programmable electronic holder to be personalized, having a surface size larger than that of all programmable electronic holders to be personalized and meeting the size accepted by a personalization machine, the adapting element being characterized in that it is provided with a housing of adapted shape and size to house and maintain at least one programmable electronic holder, and in that it comprises first communication means enabling it to receive personalization data, via contact or contactless link, from a personalization device of a personalization machine, and second communication means enabling it to transmit said personalization data to the programmable electronic holder via contact or contactless link.

2. The adapting element according to claim 1, wherein the second communication means are at least one holder connector, able to maintain at least one programmable electronic holder, and electric or optical links, ensuring the link between the holder connector and the first communication means of the adapting element.

3. The adapting element according to claim 1, wherein the second communication means are an antenna which allows adapting element to communicate via contactless link with the programmable electronic holder, the antenna being connected to the first communication means of the adapting element and arranged opposite at least one portion of the programmable electronic holder comprising an antenna.

4. The adapting element according to claim 3, wherein the means connecting the antenna of the adapting element to the first communication means

comprise an electronic card containing components for managing communication between the adapting element and the programmable electronic holder.

5        5.     The adapting element according to claim 1, wherein the first communication means are an antenna, enabling the adapting element to communicate via contactless link with the personalization device of the personalization machine.

10       6.     A use of a plurality of identical adapting elements according to claim 1 in a multipurpose personalization machine for programmable electronic holders, the personalization machine comprising at least:

- an unstacking system to unstack adapting elements from an input hopper and a stacking system to stack adapting elements in an output hopper, the input hopper and the output hopper possibly being separate or not,
- 15       - an insertion system to insert programmable electronic holders in the adapting elements at the start of the personalization machine, and a removal system to remove the programmable electronic holders from the adapting elements at the end of the personalization machine,
- 20       - a driving system to drive adapting elements provided with programmable electronic holders, causing them to transit through the personalization machine, and
- 25       - a personalization device comprising a communication system between a database supplying the personalization data and the programmable electronic holders via the adapting elements to enable personalization of the programmable electronic holders by programming the personalization data.

7.     The use of a plurality of adapting elements in a personalization device according to claim 6, wherein the driving system is a tape or belt.

8. The use of a plurality of adapting elements in a personalization device according to claim 6, wherein the driving system is a revolving disk.

5 9. The use of a plurality of adapting elements in a personalization device according to claim 6, wherein the insertion and/or removal systems for the programmable electronic holders and/or the stacking system and/or unstacking systems for the adapting elements are manual.

10 10. The use of a plurality of adapting elements in a personalization device according to claim 6, wherein the personalization device of the personalization machine is a cylinder, wheel or linear elevator comprising a plurality of connectors each connecting with the contact lug of an adapting element.